

Inorganic and Organic Chemistry
SYNTHESIS OF SULFINYLINDOLES

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As part of a program directed toward the development of methods for the selective synthesis of 4- and 7-substituted indoles, we have become interested in the chemistry of 3-sulfinylindolenines and *N*-sulfinylindoles, which we believe have potential as synthetic precursors to 4- and 7-hydroxyindoles respectively. While the literature contains a number of examples of 3-sulfinylindoles, to our knowledge, methods for the preparation of 3-sulfinylindolenines and *N*-sulfinylindoles have not been reported. Discussion will focus on the preparation and stability of *N*-sulfinylindole as well as continuing efforts to prepare 3-sulfinylindolenines via MCPBA oxidation of the corresponding 3-sulfenylindolenines.